does take place at some locations. There is no negligence of Railway in it. Wherever trespassing is noticed, action is taken to prevent it.

Gauge conversion of Mangalore-Hassan Railway Line

5482. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether gauge conversion of Mangalore-Hassan Railway line is underway for the last few years;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that the progress of implementation of the project is not satisfactory, primarily, owing to delay and inadequate release of funds by the Central Government; and

(d) the steps taken by Government for expeditious completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (d) The gauge conversion of Mangalore-Hassan is in progress as part of Arsikere-Hassan-Mangalore project. On Mangalore-Hassan section, gauge conversion from Hassan to Sakleshpur has already been completed and commissioned. Conversion of Mangalore-Kabakaputtur is targeted for completed during 2002-2003. The work is being progressed as per availability of resources. This is one of the project identified for funding through K-RIDE to expedite completion.

Crimes Committed in Rajdhani/Shatabdi Express

5483. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI DEVI PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that security in various trains has deteriorated during the last two years;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of robberies, and other crimes committed on various

important trains, including Rajdhani/Shatabdi Express, during the last one year, zone-wise; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to strengthen the security on trains in near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (c) "Policing" being a State subject, prevention and detection of crime on Railways including running trains is the Constitutional responsibility of the State Governments. The cases of crime on railways are reported to, registered and investigated by the Government Railways Police (GRP). As per information available with this Ministry, crime including robbery has increased during the year 2001 as compared to 2000. 11795 cases were registered by the Government Railway Police during 2001.

(d) The Railway administration has taken the following steps to tighten security in trains:

1. Anti-social elements are removed from Railway premises and trains.
2. Coach Attendants/TTEs keep proper watch on the passengers entering/detraining from the coaches.
3. FIR forms are made available with the Train Guards/Station Master-RPF to facilitate the travelling public to lodge their report immediately.
4. Sharing of Special Intelligence and Crime Intelligence between RPF and GRP is done at all levels.
5. Announcement through Public Address system and CCTV at important Railway stations to alert the travelling passengers against theft of their belongings etc.
6. RPF Assistance booths are provided at important stations to assist passengers in lodging FIRs with Government Railway Police.
7. Periodic High Level co-ordination Meetings with Government Railway Police and Local Police are conducted to analyze the crime position with a view to taking suitable preventive measures.